

March 27, 2025

Dear Members of the Senate and House Transportation Committees,

Thank you for the opportunity to comment on the draft transportation budget. We recognize the difficult decisions facing the transportation committee as you work to balance the budget. This joint letter comes from Transportation Management Associations, Commute Trip Reduction (CTR) jurisdictional implementers, and transportation advocates from across the state, urging you to maintain current funding for the Commute Trip Reduction program in Washington State.

CTR is a cornerstone of Washington's efforts to reduce congestion and air pollution, directly supporting the state's goals under the Clean Air Act. For over 30 years, this program has provided a proven, cost-effective way to reduce single-occupancy vehicle trips and increase access to reliable, affordable transportation. Cutting CTR funding by 60% would severely undermine the state's ability to leverage this long-standing, successful program — diminishing our ability to meet state environmental and transportation goals and compromising the effectiveness of a law that has served Washingtonians for decades.

More than just reducing traffic, CTR makes the lives of working Washingtonians easier. Transportation is the second highest expense for families. When workers receive transit passes, access to bicycle facilities, or vanpool subsidies, it puts money back in their pockets and expands access to opportunity. A 60% funding cut would harm working people and communities — not just in the Puget Sound region, but across the state — by making commutes harder, less efficient, and more expensive.

CTR also provides critical data through the commute trip reduction survey, giving the state valuable insights into commuting patterns and effective behavior-change strategies. Tools like transit passes, parking pricing, and incentive programs only work when there is staff capacity to educate workers, conduct surveys, and deliver programs. Gutting this funding would render the program ineffective by stripping away the staffing and infrastructure needed to make it work.

As more employers implement return-to-office policies, the demand for sustainable, affordable commute options is growing. CTR ensures that Washington's largest employers provide employees with congestion-relieving options like transit passes, bike parking, vanpools, and transportation education. These programs are more critical than ever as workers return to in-person work.

Investing in Commute Trip Reduction is a cost-effective way to strengthen Washington's transportation network and improve the quality of life for all residents. We urge you to restore full funding to this program and protect a vital tool that has served Washingtonians well for over 30 years.

Sincerely,



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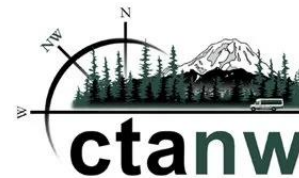
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